

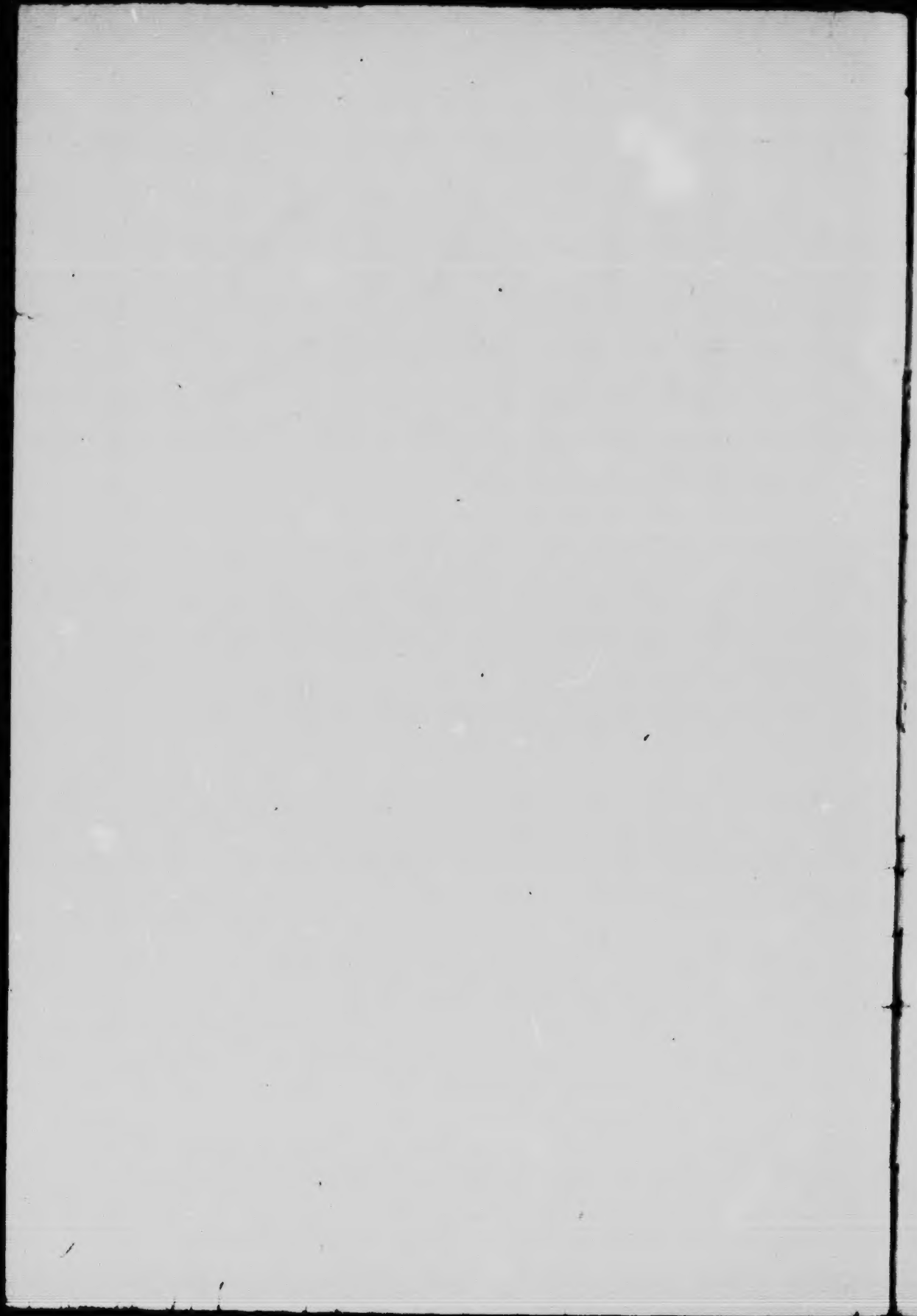
PLAIN FACTS

== FOR ==
English-Speaking
ELECTORS
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FACTS WHICH SHOULD
BE DIGESTED *and* TAKEN
SERIOUSLY TO HEART

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PLAIN FACTS

FOR ENGLISH-SPEAKING ELECTORS

FACTS WHICH SHOULD BE DIGESTED AND
TAKEN SERIOUSLY TO HEART

It is vitally important that the electors—men and women—in the English speaking Provinces of Canada should have a clear understanding of the forces operating in the Province of Quebec against Union Government and against Canada's further participation in the war.

The facts are plain and unmistakable.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who for years was afraid of the growing influence of Bourassa, finally capitulated to him, and an alliance has been formed between them and their forces.

Bourassa in his newspaper, "Le Devoir," on November 8th, 1917. wrote:

**"WE DO NOT ASK FOR ANYTHING BETTER THAN
TO HELP SIR WILFRID LAURIER OVERTHROW THIS
GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL TREASON."**

LAURIER GLADLY TAKES BOURASSA TO HIS BOSOM

This is a copy of a despatch from Montreal:

Montreal, November 9th, 1917.

"I am much surprised but it is so much the better." Such was the declaration made yesterday to a newspaper man by Sir Wilfrid Laurier before leaving this city for Quebec, after having read "Le Devoir," in which Bourassa announces that the Nationalists accept the Liberal Chief's program. Asked if he had a message for the Nationalists, Sir Wilfrid, with his usual smile, declared "Tell them I will do my duty."

Bourassa, as every English speaking man and woman knows, or should know, is anti-British, and pro-German, and he has a bitter hatred for the English speaking people of Canada. Since this war broke out he has been guilty of utterances and writings which are little short of treason and sedition. He is the recognized champion of the Clericals in Quebec, who, with their supporters, have no love either for their mother country, France, or for Great Britain, the protector of their liberties. These Clericals cold-bloodedly and openly say the war is a visitation of Providence upon France because that country quarreled with the Roman Catholic Church.

The openly declared policy of Bourassa and the Nationalist wing is that CANADA HAD NO RIGHT TO GO INTO THE WAR, AND

THAT WE MUST NOT FURTHER PARTICIPATE IN IT. In short, if Laurier wins, we are to quit. More than that, the Nationalists' demand is that the soldiers enrolled under the Military Service Act be discharged and allowed to go back to their homes.

THE LAURIER-LIBERAL-NATIONALIST PLEDGE.

Laurier-Liberal candidates in Quebec have signed the following pledge at the request of the Nationalists:

"I, the undersigned, candidate in the Federal Elections, undertake by these presents, if I am elected, to demand THE IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION OF THE MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1917, and of all its effects until Canadian electors have pronounced by way of plebiscite; and should the majority of the electors condemn it, that it be considered as null from its origin and that in consequence ALL CONSCRIPTS BE DISBANDED.

"I ALSO UNDERTAKE TO VOTE AGAINST ANY GOVERNMENT WHICH SHOULD REFUSE TO ADOPT THE ABOVE ENUNCIATED POLICY."

THE LIBERALS OF QUEBEC.

What about the Liberal in Quebec? The plain, unvarnished truth is that there is no division of opinion between them. All over the Province Liberal and Nationalist candidates alike are frankly shouting and preaching that Canada has done enough, that she must cease sending men to the front and depend upon other nations and men to do her fighting. Patriotism in truth has been boycotted, subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund have ceased and the Victory Loan is, generally speaking, sneered at.

Worse than that, the sinister, dominating fact confronting the loyal English minority in the Province to-day is that the Laurier-Bourassa forces have entered upon a campaign of organized violence and intimidation to terrorize Quebec into opposition to the Union Government.

The truth is that the disgraceful proceedings at Kitchener, when Sir Robert Borden was howled down by a pro-German mob were but a faint echo of what has been transpiring throughout Quebec for the past two weeks.

COWED INTO SURLY SUBMISSION.

Cowed into surly submission by the Government's demonstrated determination to enforce the Military Service Act, Montreal's anti-conscriptionist agitation has resolved itself into a less heroic campaign of secretly organized and well financed ruffianism; free speech for English speaking Canadians has been banned; Unionist meetings are being broken up; Unionist candidates threatened and assailed; the French Canadian press gives tacit sanction to violence by a studied silence; and the loyal elements of the French race, threatened with a business boycott and social ostracism have been intimidated into a silent neutrality.

Not since the eighties, when Honore Mercier, Coursol and Laurier, using the scaffold of Louis Riel as a stepping stone to power, fanned the ashes of French racial bigotry into a living flame against English speaking Canada, has there been witnessed such a spectacle of anti-British demagogues arousing the passions and prejudices of a people for party gain.

And just as the old rouge party became merged into Mercier's "Parti National," so to-day the old Liberal Party of pre-war days has ceased to exist, becoming part and parcel of the Nationalist, anti-war propaganda, inspired and directed by Henri Bourassa.

ORGANIZED TYRANNY.

But it is not the failure on the part of French-Canadians to either fight or pay that is arousing the bitter indignation of the English speaking loyal minority; their protest to the rest of Canada is against the organized tyranny which during the past few weeks has presented the ominous unprecedented spectacle of a people protected by and enjoying the privileges bestowed by the British flag attempting to crush out free speech in that flag's defence.

"The English speaking people of Montreal are being subjected to a species of persecution and tyranny probably without parallel in a British country," complained one of Montreal's foremost British citizens to-day.

That his complaint is based on truth and justice is evidenced by the fact that during the past week more than six Union Government gatherings have been broken up by French-Canadians, the speakers threatened with personal violence and compelled to escape from the mob under protection of the police.

TARGETS FOR ABUSE.

Hon. C. C. Ballantyne, in St. Georges; Hon. C. J. Doherty, in St. Annes; Hon. Albert Sevigny, in Westmount-St. Henry, and Sir Herbert Ames, in St. Antoine, have vainly attempted to get a hearing, and have been the targets for abuse, insults and threats, and have practically been compelled to cease all attempts to exercise the right of free speech.

The police, mostly French-Canadians, lack either the ability or the inclination to quell the disturbers and so far as protection from the municipal authorities is concerned, it can be said that there is practically none. This failure of the police to provide adequate protection and to vindicate the right of free speech is in itself deplorable enough but the most sinister aspect of the situation is that responsible Liberal leaders, from Sir Wilfrid Laurier down, have made not the slightest attempt to repudiate or even discourage the discreditable demonstrations.

INSPIRED DISTURBANCES.

On the contrary there is ample evidence that the disturbances are the work of a well-oiled Laurier-Bourassa machine, inspired and directed by men who, by subterranean methods, have welded all the slack-competent police, and an anti-British press, so that Union Government meetings cannot safely be held in the greatest city of this British Dominion. Only on the British fringes of Quebec, in the purely English speaking districts, and in the Eastern Townships, can men without risk of insult and attack plead the cause of Canada, the Empire and of Canadian heroes at the front.

French-Canadians, there still are, who have remained staunchly loyal to Canada, to the Empire and to our cause in this war; men who realize that in the present misguided anti-British attitude of their Province there can only be for the French race in Canada a roaring Niagara ahead, but they are a hopeless, subdued minority.

To-day racialism has submerged reason and patriotism in Quebec.

The teachings of Bourassa and the failure of Laurier to rally his race in the war, are bearing fruit in a wave of race bigotry and desire for French-Canadian domination; and ONLY A SOLID ENGLISH SPEAKING CANADA, DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN BRITISH IDEALS AND BRITISH TRADITIONS IN CANADA, WILL SUCCESSFULLY COPE WITH A SITUATION PREGNANT WITH PERIL.

EXTRACTS FROM FRENCH-CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS.

Speaking generally, the French language is not known or understood by the English speaking people and for that reason the English speaking people are not well informed as to what goes on in Quebec. We, therefore, consider it advisable to set before them in this pamphlet translations of extracts from French-Canadian newspapers.

LE DEVOIR, NOVEMBER 13, 1917.

"The IMMEDIATE EVIL TO BE FOUGHT IS THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT, A POLICY OF DISUNION AND NATIONAL TREASON. The attitude of the Opposition is far from being satisfactory; but it is a lesser evil.

"To put Nationalist candidates in the field would be to risk electing, in a number of constituencies, the ministerial candidate. Moreover, we should open the door to suspicious candidatures, apparently independent, which would become very difficult to set aside. In a word, we should create a diversion favorable to the Unionist coalition. By supporting Opposition candidates everywhere, we work for the overthrow of the Government and that is the immediate and urgent object; we increase the number and the strength of the influences which will impel Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his successor into the current of national reactions."

LE DEVOIR, NOVEMBER 8, 1917.

"The Unionist programme is the antithesis of all that we like, of all that we believe, of all that we want. It is synonymous with all that we detest and all that we have spurned—men, ideas, tendencies—in the two parties. The Imperialistic Tories, whom we always fought even when Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his party were supporting them, have been joined by the opportunist Liberals, whom we equally fought, when they forced on Sir Wilfrid participation in the infamous South African War, partial sacrifice of the rights of the French and Catholic minority in the West, the famous Sunday bill, the Naval law, the principle of immediate contribution to the Imperial fleet, participation without reserve and without limits in the present war."

LE DEVOIR.

"It is useless to disguise the fact that two million of French-Canadians are en bloc opposed to conscription, and the isolated exceptions found here and there make no difference in the general situation. In fact, the deceitful declarations which may be forced from this one and that one as to the 'loyal' sentiments of 'well-disposed' French-Canadians will only have the effect of exasperating the masses in their opposition to the measure.

"What will be done with the thousands of young Englishmen who have come to Canada to escape conscription, and when the young French-Canadians, with the sack on their backs, are forced to go and 'save' the Empire and British democracy, while hundreds and thousands of British are permitted to remain here and earn the salaries of our own people and eat their bread, is it to be supposed that their British loyalty will be very sensibly increased? If the Government proposes to except the Mennonites, the Doukhobors and the Quakers, why not the French-Canadians, who are supposed to take up arms only to defend their own country?"

LE DEVOIR, OCTOBER 30, 1917.

"It is useless to add that if Germany offered to abandon to England and to the United States the control of gold and commerce, peace would be concluded immediately, with or without the reunion of Alsace-Lorraine with France, with or without liberation of all the small nationalities. Perhaps Mr. Wilson, half out of self-respect, half out of the obstinacy of a doctrinaire, would insist on the democratization of Germany. But if this whim remains one of the essential terms of peace, it is because English and American plutocracy will see in it one of the necessary factors of their economic domination. Not because he claims the 'divine right,' nor because he created the most formidable army in the world, do the money-makers bear William of Hohenzollern ill-will; but because he gave an impulse to German trade which is threatening English supremacy and American ambitions; because he reduced social and economic disturbances in his empire to a minimum by providing for the laboring classes of Germany an existence much superior—setting aside the military regime—to that of British and American workmen. The laws and labor organizations of Germany have given to the English and American proletariat the idea of claiming similar things; and that decreases capitalists' profits. Anglo-American plutocracy wants a democratic and parliamentary Germany for the same reason that Bismarck wanted a republican and anti-clerical France: to weaken it by intestine dissensions.

"Taking into consideration the general immorality of international politics, these measures of reprisal may appear legitimate. But when we see the Anglo-American plutocracy impose on the English people, on the American people, on ourselves, a military yoke as heavy as that of Prussia, crush all political and civil liberties and constitute themselves into an oligarchy as arrogant as German junkerism, the grandiloquent words of Mr. Lloyd George, of Mr. Wilson and of our own parrots on the necessity of battering down Hohenzollern autocracy and Prussian militarism take a strong savor of disgusting hypocrisy."

EXTRACT FROM "LA LIBERTE."

"Before going to be treated like brutes in England by people who are only waiting for militarism to drive us with rifle butt and bayonet, let us at least take into account the questions and sayings of some enthusiasts who, thinking to help France and Belgium, went to play the scapegoat in the camps of Great Britain, where stupid brutes failed to understand that these 'silly Colonials' had done an act of heroism in leaving their homes to risk their lives in a noble cause. They believed so at least."

EXTRACT FROM LE BULLETIN.

"Those who saw the wicked and brutal smile that distorted Borden's heavy face just after he obtained a vote resultant from a carefully worked up fanaticism that had been propagated among the English element, and a vote given by three French-Canadians which will always remain pilloried—those who saw the unwholesome look of satisfaction on the face of the Premier-by-charity—can understand what a chasm is yawning in Canada to-day between the two races and religions, between the democracy of which Sir Wilfrid Laurier is head, and the autocracy and plutocracy that has for leader the future Lord Borden. For Borden will draw his pay for blood. He was very near not drawing his price, however, for the future Baron Minotaur and his evil genius were very near not coming back from their last trip to Europe."

LE JOURNAL DE WATERLOO—ARTICLE ON CONFEDERATION.

"They ask us, in fact, why the English-speaking Canadians alone celebrate this day, and why we do not manifest our patriotism on that day? The reason is very simple. It was because Confederation was a triumph for the English, who used the Province of Quebec to pay the debts of those in the Province of Ontario. It was rather a defeat for us, the real Canadians of the Dominion."

LE PROGRES DU GOLFE, one of the most anti-British sheets in the Province, publishes an article against conscription, "before," as the Rimouski sheet says, "the censor has time to stretch our neck."

"We are against conscription because we have never approved of the manner of Canada's participation in the war.

"We are against conscription because it is the complete destruction of the political traditions of our country.

"We are against conscription because it would be the sacrifice of the last parcel of liberty which we enjoy on this continent.

"We are against conscription because it would place a weight on our shoulders which others should carry.

"We are against conscription because there would be no equality amongst the different Canadian Provinces, for when the national service

cards were issued, the young men of military age in the English Provinces went over the frontier to safety, while the boys of Quebec remained at home. Consequently, these are all that is left for the war. To-morrow those deserters from the 'loyal' Provinces will come and take the places left by our own sons.

"We are against conscription because we are told that the Allies are fighting for the small nations, while in Ontario French-Canadians are being imprisoned because they wish their children to learn the French language.

"We are against conscription because it is one of the thousand diabolical means dreamed of by our enemies to destroy us, for if twenty thousand of our own were to disappear to-day, it would mean a million less at the end of the century.

"We are against conscription because the English themselves find it odious to impose it without consulting the people.

"We are against conscription because we want our sons here to cultivate the land and develop our industries and our commerce."

"We are against conscription because there is every reason in the world why we should oppose it, and not one reasonable argument in its favor. French-Canadians who have not been bought with English gold, and who have not lost their heads by fear of the Germans, or carried away by party spirit, are en bloc against conscription."

Article "WOULD BREAK CONFEDERATION," from "LA CROIX."

The Editor-in-chief, Mr. Joseph Begu, writes that the Confederation has been fatal for fifty years to French-Canadians. "We have been exploited and bled white, as this political machine in the hands of the English-speaking majority has been absolutely disastrous. From being the pioneers of this beautiful country, we have become the 'valets' of a race which pretends to be 'superior,' but which is nothing more than the modernized product of the rapacious Jew. What advantage, minimum though it be, have we got from Confederation? We have worked hard, and it has all gone to enrich the Anglo-Saxons. Our faith, our language, our schools and the future of our children, the well-being of our families, the mission which Providence seems to have confided to our hands to sow on the shores of the St. Lawrence a truly Christian civilization, appear to be passing away. The war came and the majority here again imposed upon us its arbitrary will. We are already crushed by an enormous debt, and to-day they wish to impose by force a law as unconstitutional as it is anti-Canadian, which will send our sons and brothers to the European butchery like so many cattle, whose one use is to satisfy the appetite of its master. And no one speaks of breaking this odious regime which binds us to the chariot wheels of the conqueror. In fact, no one seems to have thought of it. Speakers are constantly heard, lecturers speak and write, while others suffer, yet no one suggests the breaking of this tie which binds us to the car that leads us to the guillotine. How sweet it would be, in fact, to live in a Lower

Canada, separated from Upper Canada, yet subject as at present to the British Crown. The qualities of our race then would develop normally on the banks of this beautiful St. Lawrence, in a country extending from the Ottawa to the Atlantic, and administered by a French-Canadian majority, possessing the power to make all our laws, to treat freely with foreign countries, to fix our customs tariff, to control our immigration, our navigation, and our means of transportation. This is not a hasty movement without head or tail, but a new political constitution based on our superior interests and our inalienable rights. The time, therefore, to plow the soil and to sow this immortal grain has come. After the war it will be too late, as Imperialism will have swallowed us up, not leaving us the force to resist. Let us, therefore, organize at once in view of this precise object, Lower Canada separated from Upper Canada, loyal as in the past to British sovereignty, but possessing an autonomous administration embracing all branches of human activity.

"(1) Let us propagate the project and let the idea be known as far as the most remote hamlet in the Province.

"(2) Let us find a leader whose heart is running over with love for his own people, and enthusiasm for French-Canadian genius.

"(3) Committees to be formed in all the chief cities and towns.

"(4) Once the project is understood by the masses, a monster petition will be signed and submitted to the legitimate authorities.

"(5) This petition should be the clear expression of the popular will of this new Lower Canada.

"(6) It should show the political, social and religious disaster of Confederation on the one part, and on the other part the advantages Great Britain would obtain in according a political constitution which would give us a closer connection with the British Crown."

CONFEDERATION DENOUNCED.

Joseph Begin, in an editorial article in LA CROIX, Montreal, July 14, 1917, under caption: "CONFEDERATION MUST BE DESTROYED," wrote:—

"Cato never finished a speech without reminding the Romans that they should destroy Carthage and, in the end, the Romans destroyed that powerful African city.

"The proposal to secede which we have put forward is advancing more rapidly than we anticipated. We are getting support everywhere and, if we are to judge by the uneasiness it has caused in the English press in the West, it is the surest and, at the same time, the most legitimate means of preventing our enemies from decimating the sons of the gallant men who discovered and civilized Canada.

"If, to-day, Lower Canada had a distinct political constitution, we should not see the brutal majority which governs us at Ottawa profiting

by the circumstances of war to crush us. We should freely have made our part of the sacrifice for England and it would have been reasonable and just. England would have been satisfied and we should, unencumbered, have continued to develop our national genius on the shores of the St. Lawrence. French-Canadian statesmen who co-operated in the creation of Confederation were very badly inspired.

"Blinded by apparent Anglo-Saxon qualities, they were unable to fathom the monstrous defects hidden under the exterior of business men, to strangers. This schismatical race, which preferred an unchaste king and an assassin rather than a holy and enlightened Pope, is rotten with pride. So long as God does not smite them with His compassionate hand, they will nourish sentiments of hatred against Catholics."

(Note.—Reference in last paragraph is apparently to Henry VIII., although name is not mentioned in the article).

AUTONOMOUS LOWER CANADA.

Joseph Begin in LA CROIX, Montreal, October 6, 1917, under the caption, "AN AUTONOMOUS LOWER CANADA WOULD BE THE SALVATION OF OUR RACE":—

"Why this conscription law, if not to decimate the population of Quebec?

"Why this purchase of the Canadian Northern, if not to enrich a few dozen English and pay off the debts which this railway owes to the English Provinces, and that to the detriment of Quebec, which is in no way interested in the line, but will have to contribute more than \$100,000 to purchase the old equipment of this bankrupt company?

"Why will there be only two French-Canadians out of eighteen ministers in the new Borden Cabinet, if not to belittle still more our remaining prestige in the administration of public affairs?

"Why this war on French in Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, if not because French is the vehicle of Catholicism in Canada?

"Why, to turn back to the origin of our decapitation, did the English politicians of 1840 favor union of the two Canadas, if not to make Quebec pay the debts of Ontario, if not to annihilate, by the domination of the Anglo-Saxon population in Upper Canada, the magnificent ascendancy and development which the 60,000 French-speaking habitants of 1759 had acquired in Lower Canada?

"Why, later, was Union merged into Confederation, if not still more to favor this Anglo-Saxon domination by the creation of new Provinces and of new English recruits?

"Why, for several years, has immigration been almost exclusively English, if not the more surely to drown us under the Anglo-Saxon flood?

"These are undoubted facts.

"They are written in our history in letters of blood.

"The French-Canadian who can read them without shedding bitter tears and without making the firm resolve to break the tie of Confederation, is a man without spirit. Let him rather join the camp of our enemies. We would rather see him in front of us and against us, hindering us and even betraying us. It is time to divide the true from the false patriots and to be severe in regard to the latter. When the future of a whole race is in danger, it is indeed criminal to tolerate from our ranks guilty condescensions to our enemies.

"Besides, London politicians are taking into consideration the impossibility of keeping us longer under the Confederation regime.

"Further, in the interests of England in particular and to bind us loyally to the Crown, they would probably be ready to concede an autonomous political constitution of the Eastern Provinces (Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island). All depends on us. The circumstances of war will lend themselves to this reform if we know how to take advantage of them. England needs us in this terrible conflict as she needs all the other groups of her colonies. She asks for sacrifice. So be it. But in return let her give to us the political regime which will permit us to grow and become as powerful as we are generous."

PAPAL PEACE TERMS.

Joseph Begin, in *LA CROIX*, Montreal, September 29, 1917:—

"In principle the two Central Empires are willing to accept the peace terms of the Pope, leaving the care of details to the plenipotentiaries who will discuss them. That is the first step towards peace and one which will be approved by all right-minded people.

"But this first step apparently upsets the plans of England, which would like to crush Germany and substitute her industries and her trade for those of her enemy. Peace will permit Germany to live and to recuperate. Peace will bring happiness to the whole world, even to England; but pride and the spirit of domination are blinding this latter country.

"Therefore, through her newspapers, she rejects the good intentions of the Central Empires and distorts them by calling them 'vague, hypocritical, unacceptable replies, furnishing one more reason why the war should be continued to certain victory.'

"England's object now appears plainly. What matter to her million of lives sacrificed and the unheard miseries of the people? She has decided that the slaughter-house shall remain open until victory is won. If we take into consideration these inauspicious intentions on the part of England, the war may well last another three years. Then, after this fresh stage of nameless savagery, England will not be more advanced than she is to-day, for Germany, neutralizing the efforts of Russia by the civil war she has engendered there, will have doubled the forces she had on her western front."

